

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown.

1. (Currently Amended) An electric power steering system comprising:
  - a first bevel gear, including a first axis, driven into rotation by an electric motor;
  - a second bevel gear, including a second axis, meshed with the first bevel gear with ~~their~~ the axes intersecting each other and allowed to move toward the first bevel gear;
  - a biasing member for biasing the second bevel gear toward the first bevel gear;
  - a rack shaft linearly moved thereby steering steerable road wheels;
  - a rotary element rotatably supported by a rack housing via a rolling bearing as enclosing the rack shaft and operating to transmit the rotation of the electric motor via the first bevel gear and the second bevel gear; and
  - a power conversion mechanism formed between the rotary element and the rack shaft for converting the rotary motion of the rotary element to the linear motion of the rack shaft;
  - wherein the rack housing comprises a first housing for supporting one end of the rotary element as allowing for a relative axial movement thereof, and a second housing for supporting the other end of the rotary element as inhibiting relative axial movement thereof, and
  - wherein a housing adjuster provides for adjustment of relative axial positions of the first housing and the second housing with respect to the rack shaft.

2. (Original) The electric power steering system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the biasing member is interposed between an outer lateral surface of an outer ring of the rolling

bearing and a biasing member seat of the housing opposite from the outer lateral surface, thereby moving the second bevel gear toward the first bevel gear in conjunction with the rotary element.

3.-11. (Cancelled)